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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1725

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

FURUSE et al.

Attorney Docket No: 106145-00021

Application No. 09/940,603

Art Unit: 1725

Filed: August 29, 2001

Examiner: K. Lin

For: METHOD FOR JOINING FRAME MEMBERS

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 29, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated June 11, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows: